An Essay
on the
Provings of Homoeopathy
Compared with Allopathy

Respectfully Submitted to the Faculty
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"True philosophers who are only eager for truth and knowledge never regard themselves as already so thoroughly informed, but that they welcome further information from whomsoever and whencesoever it may come; Nor are they so narrow minded as to imagine any of the arts or sciences transmitted to us by the ancients, in such a state of forwardness or completeness that nothing is left for the ingenuity and industry of others"

First let us inquire into and review the allopathic provings of the Materia medica.

In the first place I may remark that their manner of proving - or as I should say (if speaking

conscientiously) their experimenting with remidies - is just as antagonistic in method to that of Homoeopathy. as the practice of Allopathy is to that of Homoeopathy.

To proceed then to their provings - How did they begin? Did they have any guide? No! Their efforts when reviewed seem ridiculous puerile and absurd.

What then was their method? To sum it up in few words it was the Trial of the same remedy in every variety of disease. Ninety nine out of a hundred are buried out of the

world by the experiment.
When Lo! there is great re-
-joicing over the one that has
survived. For Science has
been benefitted. Knowledge
that precious jewell has been
gained.

Dr Paris of the Royal
College of Physcians says-"
" The College of Physcians pos-
-sesses one of the most complete
Collections of the Materia Med.
-ica in Europe, glancing at
the extensive and motley
assemblage of substances
with which these cabinets
are overwhelmed, it is im-
-possible, (he says in a lec.
-ture addressed to the assem-

bled College) to cast our eyes over such multiplied groups, without being forcibly struck with the palpable absurdity of some - The disgusting and revolting natures of others - the total want of activity in many - and the uncertain and precarious reputation of all - Or without feeling an Eager Curiosity to enquire from the Combination of what Causes it can have happened, that Substances, at one period in the highest esteem and of general acknowled utility, have fallen into total neglect and disrepute: While others of more humble pretensions and little

significance have maintained their ground for so many years and centuries." and on what account? Materials of no energy whatever have received the undisputable sanction and the unqualified approbation and support of the best and wisest practitioners of the age".

A great many (if not may not say all) of the provings of the Allopathic School are founded on the experience as it is so called of old practitioners. Whenever a new remedy was used by one of these old practitioners, it was seized with avidity by the other members of the profession

and was used in almost every prescription. (no matter what the disease) but as soon as some new and unknown remedy was heralded to to the world it was blindly taken up: while the former one sank into the obscurity from which it came. the first remedy being often proclaimed by its former advocates as ~~having~~ being possessed of no efficacy whatever -

It is a strange and lamentable fact. that after the earnest and conscientious labors and investigations of many of the wisest and most learned men of ancient and modern times

for thousands of years, that they should still continue on in their old and barren tracks. deaf to the entreaties of the suffering and blind to the light of new truth on this one subject.

It certainly ought to show that some new method should be sought for. Not as I said before in beating an groping along the same dark pathway, but by making a direct turn and seeking for some new path wherewith to give some system reason and common sense to their Materia Medica.

Let me now refer to the proving of remidies as

was taught us by the Immortal Hahnemann. Let us see whether we shall find all vague dark and mysterious before us.

In the first place we start on the basis or law that Similia Similibus Curantur (Like cures like) not as some of our ignorant persecutors have contended that that which causes a mischief will cure it thereby confounding Similia (Like) with idem (the same).

Our basis is to try the remedy on a healthy body without its (the remedy) being combined or compounded with any other substance. Every attention is then to be paid to the effect produced

and carefully noted down.

Having these phenomena in a state of health, we may proceed to experiment with some guide on the diseased Body.-

Such was the suggestion of Haller. a century before Hahnemann (a german physician then rising into notice) who adopted and advocated it.- Let me here quote from our former beloved Teacher and friend (Chas J. Hempel M.D.) as regards Hahnemanns position at that time.- He says "Hahnemanns position at the time the great truth of Homoeopathy flashed upon.

his mind was a very pe-
-culiar one.- He was like
a great chieftain, marshalling
his forces against an Enemy,
who has has fortified his camp
with all the contrivances that
human cunning can suggest.
An offensive as well as de-
-fensible position.-
Hahnemann conducted this
war of extermination with
merciless energy.- He en-
-gaged in the combat with
the determination of crush-
-ing the enemy as a monster
of wickedness and falsehood:
What else could be
expected of a spirit, which
like his, loved truth and loath-

-ed the systems that had been playing foot-ball with suffering humanity for thousands of years:-
Medical Science was utterly depraved: It had to be wiped out: Baseless theories and gross materialism were its component parts.- The little wheat contained in such an immense quantity of chaff was scarcely worth preserving. Materia Medica Therapeutics and Pathology became a mass of ruins, and the flag of Similia Similibus floated proudly over the enemys camp."
Hahnemann says: "The phys-

-cian whose sole aim is to perfect his art can avail himself of no other information than 1st What is the pure action of each drug by its-elf on the human body?

Secondly. What do observations of its actions in this or that simple or complex disease teach us?"

This only was to be done as I said before. by trying and finding out the effects of the remedy on the healthy body. But who had the Courage to do this?

Among the few who early ventured an attempt, was J. Stöerck., who proved upon

his own person the violent powers of Colchicum and Stramonium. Some other trials were afterwards made, but a common fate attended all of them: for attracting the public mind to these remedies they became overvalued so that in a short time they were employed empirically upon all occasions and in every form of disease, of course often producing disappointments and therefore they fell into disuse.

In this hopeless state of things Hahnemann stepped forward with the zeal and courage of a true

pioneer, and commenced the proving of drugs upon his own person and such of his friends as he could induce to join him.

His first trial was made with the Peruvian bark. After taking a sufficient quantity, he was thrown into a fever closely resembling such for which the drug was usually prescribed. Hence he thought there must be a direct connection between the action of a drug when taken in health and of that when taken in disease.

During a long course of years he kept on proving all the

best known drugs, keeping a strict and minute account of all the symptoms produced, grouping them together and forming for himself as it were a comple Materia Medica.

The praise of having led the way is Hahnemanns, for he has certainly given us the key wherewith to unlock the hidden mysteries of the unfoundless Materia Medica. Shall we then not avail ourselves of the privilege granted unto us? Shall we not complete the good work already begun? How easily it could be

accomplished by each and every practitioner, keeping a complete record of the morbid effects of drugs, either by proving them upon himself or from cases of accidental poisoning.

In Conclusion I would say that the only path now open to medical men, in which they can pursue their way with credit or with any hope of obtaining more power over that great King disease, is to push forward as Hahnemann has begun.

Then will our Children bless us and our heavenly Father say when we leave this

world, "Well done thou good
and faithful Servant"